

United States Embassy Kyiv, Ukraine

Security Message for U.S. Citizens:

Demonstrations in Kyiv; Police Disperse Protesters in Government District

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Police continue to surround Independence Square, City Hall and other locations occupied by protesters. Police maintain a strong presence in the government district but have dispersed protesters who had been blockading the Presidential Administration and other buildings. The possibility of clashes between police and protesters remains high. The situation is fluid and the location and nature of the demonstrations may change without notice.

We strongly urge U.S. citizens to avoid downtown Kyiv and areas where there are demonstrations or a large police presence. Protesters have blocked roads and may do so again in the future. Individuals should exercise caution when moving around the city. Citizens whose residences or hotels are located in areas with gatherings of protestors and police should leave the area or plan for the possibility they might have to remain inside should clashes occur. U.S. citizens should monitor media coverage and stay aware of the ongoing situation.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Ukraine enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at www.Travel.State.Gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website, where you can find [current Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), and the [Worldwide Caution](#). Read the [Country Specific Information for Ukraine](#). For additional information, refer to "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. Embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free Smart Traveler App, available through the [iTunes store](#) and [Google Play store](#), to have travel information at your fingertips.